

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 01705 141057Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 AGR-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 L-02

SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 OMB-01 DOTE-00 FMC-01 DODE-00 /066 W

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P 140913Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2142

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FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, EG

SUBJ: PL 480 WHEAT AND ALEXANDRIA PORT

REF: CAIRO 0962 AND 1083

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ALEXANDRIA PORT AUTHORITY HAS MADE FORMAL APPEAL TO CONSUL GENERAL FOR TIGHTER USG CONTROL OVER PL 480 WHEAT SHIPMENTS AND UNLOADING IN BADLY CONGESTED ALEXANDRIA PORT. IN LETTER DATED 8 FEBRUARY AND RECEIVED 13 FEBRUARY, ADMIRAL YOUSEF SAMAHA ASKS CONSUL GENERAL TO "REVIEW KIND OF SHIPS AND NUMBER AND EFFICIENCY OF VACUVATORS PROVIDED BY THESE SHIPS." HE SPECIFICALLY ASKS USG "COMPENSATE" (I.E., RECIPROCATE) GOE EFFORTS TO GRANT PRIORITY DOCKING FOR THESE VESSELS AND EXPEDITE UNLOADING.

2. CENTRAL PROBLEM IS APPARENT UNWILLINGNESS OF SOME SHIPOWNERS AND MASTERS TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF WHEAT VACUVATORS TO MEET ONE THOUSAND TON PER DAY CONTRACT DISCHARGE RATE OR, EVEN IF CONTRACT RATE MET, EXPEDITE OFFLOADING TO MAXIMUM ADDITIONAL EXTENT CONSISTENT WITH AVAILABLE FACILITIES. SPECIFICALLY, RECENTLY DEPARTED MOUNT JULI (PANAMANIAN FLAG) WAS ABLE

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DISCHARGE ONLY ABOUT 700 TONS PER DAY WITH THE SIX MACHINES

SHE CARRIED. DESTINY (LIBERIAN FLAG) WAS, WITH CONGEN'S INTERVENTION, GIVEN BERTH AFTER ONLY TWO DAYS OUTSIDE HARBOR (COMPARED TO NORMAL WAITING TIME OF ONE MONTH OR LONGER); DESTINY CARRIES ONLY FOUR VACUVATORS, HAS BEEN DISCHARGING AT LESS THAN 700 TONS PER DAY RATE, AND THUS FAR HAS REFUSED PRPEATED URGING OF RECEIVERS TO RENT MORE VACUVATORS. SS MARYLAND TRADER (WITH EIGHT VACUVATORS) DID AVERAGE BOUT ONE THOUSAND TONS PER DAY DISCHARGE, BUT SS VANTAGE HORIZON, WHICH HIRED 17 MACHINES, IS THE ONLY PL 480 WHEAT CARRIER THIS SERIES THAT HAS BROUGHT SMILES LOCALLY WHEN SHE REACHED RATE OF TWO THOUSAND TONS PLUS ON GOOD DAYS.

3. ON BASIS EXPERIENCE TO DATE, AND IN VIEW CRITICAL NECESSITY TO FREE LIMITED GRAIN DOCK SPACES FOR OTHER PL 480 SHIPMENTS AND GRAIN ARRIVALS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, WE BELIEVE CONTRACT RATE OF DISCHARGE AND PROVISION FOR COMPENSATION FOR VACUVATOR RENTAL AND OVERTIME STEVEDORING MUST BE FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO MEET PORT AUTHORITIES REQUEST FOR SPEEDIER AND MORE EFFICIENT UNLOADING OF PL 480 WHEAT AT ALEXANDRIA. SIGNED CHASE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PL 480, WHEAT, PORT FACILITIES, CARGO SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO01705
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750054-0320
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750243/aaaabmfz.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CAIRO 0962 AND 1083
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PL 480 WHEAT AND ALEXANDRIA PORT
TAGS: EAID, EWWT, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006